

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Poland	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Establishment of a National Church in Silesia	DATE DISTR.	14 October 1954
DATE OF INFO.		NO. OF PAGES	1
PLACE ACQUIRED		REQUIREMENT NO.	RD 25X1
		REFERENCES	
This is UNEVALUATED Information			25X1

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1. The Polish Government has begun the introduction of the National Church in Silesia, and in this connection is forcing priests of the Roman Catholic Church to enter this church. Priests who resist are removed from office and taken to a special monastery in Upper Silesia where they are isolated from the community.
2. Priests of the National Church, after taking a six-month special course in Bytom (Beuthen), are sent to take the places of those priests who have been dismissed. Since the services conducted by them are very chaotic, the course in Bytom is to be extended to one year.
3. The new "priests" come to their parishes with their wives and children. The Roman Catholic community is boycotting this new church and does not attend Mass celebrated by such priests.

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